



State of Arizona

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Brewer Announces Cabinet Appointments

Names Directors of ADOT, RUCO, and Registrar of Contractors

Phoenix - Arizona Governor Jan Brewer today announced several key Cabinet appointments, naming Mr. John Halikowski as Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation, Mr. Bill Mundell as Registrar of Contractors, and Ms. Jodi Jerich as Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office.

"The people of the State of Arizona will be extremely well served by the appointments of these highly experienced and well respected individuals," said Governor Brewer. "John Halikowski brings with him a wealth of experience through his involvement with every significant transportation initiative in the past decade. Bill Mundell has a long and consistent record of achievement as Corporation Commissioner, Member of the House of Representatives, and Chandler Municipal Court Judge. And Jodi Jerich is an esteemed attorney, senior legislative staff member, and former Policy Advisor at the Arizona Corporation Commission."

Prior to his appointment as Director of ADOT, John Halikowski served for twelve years as the Director of Research at the Arizona House of Representatives where he was responsible for drafting, presenting, researching and working with affected constituencies on transportation related legislation. Mr. Halikowski was deeply involved in major legislation that included the Maricopa County Transportation plan; State Highway Construction Acceleration; Privatization; DUI; Transportation Finance and Graduated Driver Licensing. Prior to that, he spent six years at ADOT serving in various capacities including, as Executive Assistant to the MVD Director; Deputy Director, Driver License Program; Legislative Liaison; MVD Customer Services and Central Processing Administrator and MVD Deputy Director and Operations Chief.

Mr. Halikowski received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications and graduated summa cum laude, from Arizona State University.

Prior to his appointment as Registrar of Contractors, Bill Mundell served as a Commissioner of the Arizona Corporation Commission. He was appointed to the Commission in 1991 by former Arizona Governor Jane Hull and won re-election in 2000 and again in 2004. He served as Chairman from 2001 to 2003, during which time Arizona became the first state to require its utilities to generate electricity from renewable energy while at the same time protecting business and residential consumers from unnecessary rate increases.

Mr. Mundell served for six years as a Representative in the Arizona House of Representatives during which time he was voted "One of Arizona's Top 10 Legislators." During his tenure at the legislature he served as Chairman of the House Environment Committee, sponsoring numerous pieces of legislation protecting the environment, including Arizona's first recycling law. He also sponsored legislation strengthening Arizona's domestic violence laws and crimes against children laws.

Mr. Mundell served as Presiding Judge of the Chandler Municipal Court from 1980 – 1986 and has been an Attorney in Arizona since 1978. Mr. Mundell received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Arizona State University and received his Juris Doctor degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas.

Prior to her appointment as Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office, Jodi Jerich served four years as Chief of Staff and Counsel to the Republican Caucus of the Arizona House of Representatives. In this capacity, Ms. Jerich worked closely with the Speaker of the House, Majority Leader and Majority Whip and was responsible for House operations, strategic policy planning, and legal advice. She also served in various additional capacities at the Arizona House of Representatives from 1997 to 2002 including as Senior Policy Advisor/Legal Counsel, as Analyst to the Judiciary Committee and as Analyst to the Rules Committee. From 2002 – 2004, she served as Policy Advisor to Commissioner Mike Gleason of the Arizona Corporation Commission, advising the Commissioner on pending electric, natural gas, water and wastewater rate cases before the Commission.

Ms. Jerich also served as an Independent Contractor in the Regulatory Division of Chicago, Illinois utilities company, Ameritech. Ms. Jerich received her Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. She went on to receive her Juris Doctor, also from Indiana University. She is a member of the Tennessee and Arizona bars.

"I want to compliment and thank outgoing Director Victor Mendez of ADOT, Deputy Director Richard Travis of ADOT, Registrar of Contractors Armando Contreras, and Director Stephen Ahearn of RUCO for their public service to the State of Arizona," said Governor Brewer. "I am grateful for their professionalism and commitment to an efficient and effective transition."

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